

USOE HAPPENINGS

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Take a Bite Out of UBSCCT

A student file will be posted in your move-it file on the web in an Excel format listing your district's juniors and seniors who have not passed one or more subtests of the UBSCCT within our system since the February administration.

These students will be associated with a school ID. Assessment Directors will need to parse out portions of that file to each of the district's schools. School test coordinators or administrators should look for students in these grades who are missing on this file who might be new to their school. Use the UBSCCT look-up tool linked on the Assessment page at www.schools.utah.gov to enter the SSID number associated with this student to see if he/she should be in-

cluded in your pre-print file. If you do not have the student's SSID number and don't know how to retrieve it, school Test Coordinators should contact their District Assessment Director.

If the files are showing students who already have passing scores for all three subtests, those student names need to be referred to the USOE for clean-up. Also, if there are students listed who should have scores on any test but don't, please contact Aaron.Brough@schools.utah.gov or Murry.Jensen@schools.utah.gov with this information. If there are students with duplicate or missing SSIDs, please work through your District Administrator.

This should help you build a pre-print file; it takes time to pick and choose students, and

we understand this. Sharon has stated that she can give you a five-day turn around (as needed) as long as all your student files are clean and match up to an SSID number in our system so we can verify each as a real student, etc. For new data techs or District Administrators, please start working with Sharon or your assigned data tech in Computer Services no later than Oct 1st.

Our goal is to work with you to meet your needs. Remember your special needs materials are ordered through USOE's order site.

REMINDERS

Iowa Coordinators' Guides are for 2008 too, so save them!

Math and science reference sheets used in spring CRT testing are available for use in instruction on our web site at http://www.schools.utah.gov/assessment/info_math.aspx or http://www.schools.utah.gov/assessment/info_science.aspx.

SAVE YOUR IOWA COORDINATORS' GUIDES FOR USE NEXT YEAR!

IOWA TRADITIONAL SCHEDULE

FALL 2007	FALL 2008	SCHEDULE OF TASKS
August 1–Sept. 30, 2007	August 1–Sept. 30, 2008	Ordering of additional test materials for nine-month and year-round schools
Sept. 4–5, 2007	Sept. 1–4, 2008	Last date for districts to provide pre-print files to verify enrollment
Sept. 17–Oct. 5, 2007	Sept. 15–Oct. 3, 2008	TEST ADMINISTRATION PERIOD
Oct. 5, 2007	Oct. 3, 2008	Last date for completing make-up tests
Oct. 8–19, 2007	Oct. 6–17, 2008	Schools return test booklets and answer documents to school district office
Oct. 15–19, 2007	Oct. 13–17, 2008	Districts return answer documents to the Utah State Office of Education (USOE)



CBT

Computer-Based Assessments (CBT)

CBT (computer-based testing) refers to the online administration of Criterion-Referenced Tests (CRTs) that is offered during your spring testing window. For 2008, all CRTs except for grade 2 will be available via computer.

We are in the process of developing a

training plan. There will be two types of in-person training involving Pearson personnel and walk-through information posted to websites on individual aspects of training. You will receive information about when CBT trainings will occur. **Please have representatives attend** – especially if this is your first time administering tests through CBT. CBT procedures and information will be addressed at the monthly District Assessment Directors' Meetings.

For other information needs, please feel free to explore the

<http://etest.pearson.com/customers/utah> website. There is much information available on these pages, and reading through documentation that is available here may help to greatly reduce the anxiety that you or your staff may feel. The information has not yet been updated to reflect changes that will occur for 2008 – it is the information that was current for 2007 tests—but it is very similar and should aid in increasing familiarity.

RESULTS—What We All Want

Results for all 2006-07 tests are now posted on the Assessment Page on the USOE website at <http://www.schools.utah.gov/assessment/reports.aspx>.

CRT: www.schools.utah.gov/assessment/documents/Results_CRT_State_05-07.pdf

DWA: www.schools.utah.gov/assessment/documents/Results_DWA_State_05-07.pdf

Results_DWA_State_05-07.pdf

UBSCT: www.schools.utah.gov/eval/documents/UBSCT_Results_State_Report_Class.pdf

UPASS: <http://results.schools.utah.gov/upass/search.aspx>

For more information, contact Murry Jensen at 538-7823 or any member of the COGNOS User's Group.

School Performance



Reports

David Smith— Test Development Coordinator

Before coming to the USOE I was an elementary school principal in Murray City School District for 20 years. Prior to that I taught junior high English and computers for three years in Jordan's Accelerated Learner Program, and elementary school for seven years. I worked in three school districts – I started in Weber at Lakeview Elementary, then went to Jordan at Sprucewood Elementary and Midvale Middle School. Then I was a principal in Murray District at Horizon Elementary, Grant Elementary, and McMillan Elementary.

I have a wonderful wife named Connie. We celebrated our 31st anniversary on Monday. We have four sons. Tyson, 27, lives in Baltimore and is an actor currently working as an office manager for a nonprofit organization; Landon, 23, lives in Logan with his wife Liz and attends Utah State University as a music major; Carson, 20, is serving an LDS mission in South Africa; and Devon, 16, a junior at Jordan High School. My sons are all musicians with beautiful singing voices. They all play the piano. Devon also plays the guitar (classical, jazz, rock, and blues), the drums, and the oboe. He has a band called The Illusional Biskets.

I enjoy dabbling in guitar, writing, reading, playing golf, and spending as much time as possible with my family.

UALPA Questions Answered

Be sure that you administer the new forms of UALPA, the UALPA 2. This new form and levels were distributed for the 2007-08 school year. Districts received materials at the beginning of August. Begin testing new students; students identified on UALPA 1 at P,E, and I levels and A-level students who, in your professional judgment, should be tested. There are two different Form booklets in each grade span: level 1 and level 2. **Level 1 is intended only for ELL students who are new to a U.S. school during the last 12 months or who are at the Pre-Emergent or Emergent Level in English language proficiency.** Exceptions can be made but only in special

cases where a Level 1 form is warranted (in your professional judgment.) If in doubt, administer Level 2, which has a more extensive range of difficulty. **If a student reaches frustration during the Speaking test on Level 2 administer the Level 1 Speaking test,** followed by the Level 1 subtests. Administer the other three subtests (Listening, Reading, and Writing) individually (not in a group setting) to any student who reaches frustration on the Level 1 Speaking test. Rubrics for constructed responses have been revised. New scoring guides are being produced and distributed to districts. Trained UALPA 2 scorers in each district should score the constructed

response section of each UALPA 2 test. No UALPA 2 answer documents should be sent to the USOE until constructed responses are scored.

The administrator training DVDs have arrived at your district office. Your districts should be scheduling training.

Only one set of student pre-print labels will be delivered by the USOE. If extra labels are needed because it is determined that the student needs to take the other form of the test during the speaking test, you can either place a request with Computer Services at the USOE or hand-bubble in the student information on a correct blank level and grade-span answer document (name and district student number).

USOE—Assessment

Test Administration Reminders:

October 2007 UBSCT Administration Schedule	
October 16, 17 and 18	Administration of UBSCT
Oct. 16, Tuesday	Writing Subtest
Oct. 17, Wednesday	Mathematics Subtest
Oct. 18, Thursday	Reading Subtest
October 19-23	Make-up testing, to be conducted in a uniform manner as per district guidelines

Ordering for trimester or semester materials opens October 1st. Your calendar lists this window as open until December 31st, but it will actually close November 30th, so be sure to get all your needed materials ordered in time!



Margaret Young—Elementary Language Arts

Margaret is such an energetic, bright, open-minded lady, you have to smile with her as soon as you meet her. Here are some of the things she has tucked under her belt so far! You can plainly see why she will be such an asset to the USOE.

"I taught inner-city ESL students for fourteen years, eleven years in Ogden."

"I am bilingual (English and Spanish)."

"I was a Reading First literacy coach for two years."

"I am single with no children, but I adore my six nieces and nephews."

**UTAH STATE
OFFICE OF**



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**The next Assessment
Directors' meeting is
October 11th at the
Jones Center! RSVP
required.**

Workshops

Science: Chemistry and Physics Item Writing Workshop — Oct. 23-25

WE NEED ITEM WRITERS! Contact Kevin King at 538-7591.

<http://www.schools.utah.gov/assessment/>

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR FEEDBACK.
INCLUDE OTHER AREAS OF INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL!

SARAH.MOORE@SCHOOLS.UTAH.GOV.

Utah Test Item Pool Service (UTIPS)

This summer has been very good for UTIPS. The UTIPS Operator's Group (specifically, Tom Ackerson – Wasatch, Don Remy – NUES, Thom Gourley – UEN, and Loren Bleak, Jared Brown and Patrick McDermott – San Juan) has developed a process for updating the USOE item pool on each of the regional UTIPS servers. Questions regarding the specific timing of this update on each server should be directed to those who manage the server. This item pool update includes the re-aligned Secondary English Language Arts items.

Work is currently in process to re-align the existing Math items in

UTIPS to the newly adopted math curriculum and the UBSCCT framework. A constructed response project is also planned in Science. Other projects are in place to improve the quality of the USOE item pool. Requests for additional content area item pools (CTE, Fine Arts, etc.) should be directed to Julie Quinn at Julie.Quinn@schools.utah.gov.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

October:

- 10/5—State Board of Education mtg.
- 10/8—Columbus Day—USOE closed
- 10/9—Assessment—UALPA Scorer Training Meeting
- 10/11—Assessment Director's Meeting, at the Jones Center 8:30-4:00
- 10/4-10/5—Special Education—CCBD Conference; contact Chris Kunej
- 10/28—Daylight savings ends
- 10/29-10/30 UEA
- 11/2—State Board of Education Mtg.